

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 USUN N 03276 240110Z
ACTION DLOS-09

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 H-02 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00
ICAE-00 ACDA-12 AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01
CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08
EPA-04 SOE-02 DOE-15 FMC-02 TRSE-00 INR-10 INT-05
JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSF-02 OES-09 OMB-01 PA-02
PM-05 SP-02 SS-15 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12 EUR-12
NEA-10 /188 W

-----091481 240123Z /75

O 240110Z AUG 78
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2952

UNCLAS USUN NEW YORK 03276

FROM LOSDEL

H FOR SENATOR BAKER FROM AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PLOS
SUBJECT: LOS - DEEP SEABED MINING LEGISLATION (S.2053)

1. BEGIN TEXT: DEAR SENATOR BAKER:

I WAS PLEASED TO BE ABLE TO TALK TO YOU TODAY ABOUT THE
DEEP SEABED MINING LEGISLATION (S. 2053). BEFORE IT IS
MARKED UP BY THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS TOMORROW,
I WOULD LIKE TO AMPLIFY MY VIEWS AND THOSE OF THE ADMI-
NISTRATION ON THIS LEGISLATION.

WHILE THE SEVENTH SESSION OF THE LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE
DID MAKE PROGRESS IN GENEVA, IT IS HIGHLY UNCERTAIN WHEN
OR WHETHER AN ACCEPTABLE TREATY WILL BE SIGNED. IT IS
CLEAR, IN ANY CASE, THAT SEVERAL YEARS WILL PASS AFTER THE
TREATY IS SIGNED BEFORE IT ENTERS INTO FORCE, AND ADDI-
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 USUN N 03276 240110Z

TIONAL TIME WILL BE REQUIRED FOR THE INTERNATIONAL SEABED
AUTHORITY TO PROMULGATE ITS RULES AND REGULATIONS AND
FINALLY APPROVE CONTRACTS.

IN THE MEANTIME, THERE IS A VERY REAL RISK THAT AMERICAN
OCEAN MINING COMPANIES WILL NOT BE ABLE TO SUSTAIN THEIR
COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS UNDER THESE HIGHLY UNCERTAIN

CIRCUMSTANCES. IN MY JUDGMENT, MOREOVER, THE CERTAIN PROSPECT OF DEEP SEABED MINING WILL HELP TO STRENGTHEN THE SPIRIT OF REALITY AND COMPROMISE WHICH HAS RECENTLY CHARACTERIZED THE LAW OF THE SEA NEGOTIATIONS.

ALTHOUGH IT IS TO BE EXPECTED THAT THERE WILL BE SOME ADVERSE REACTIONS AT THE LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE TO THE ENACTMENT OF THE PENDING LEGISLATION, I AM CONVINCED NOT ONLY THAT IT IS IN OUR NATIONAL INTEREST FOR S. 2053 TO BE ENACTED INTO LAW AT THIS SESSION OF THE CONGRESS BUT THAT THIS WILL ALSO ADVANCE THE INTEREST OF THE WORLD COMMUNITY IN THE EARLIEST PRACTICABLE FULFILLMENT OF THE COMMON HERITAGE.

A--HE PRES

AT THE SAME TIME, I MUST EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANCE WHICH THE ADMINISTRATION ATTACHES TO A NUMBER OF AMENDMENTS TO S. 2053 THAT WE BELIEVE WOULD SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVE THE BILL FROM THE STANDPOINT OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION. THE ENERGY AND COMMERCE COMMITTEES MADE SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENTS IN THE BILL, BUT THE ADMINISTRATION BELIEVES THAT THE FURTHER AMENDMENTS SET OUT IN MY TESTIMONY OF AUGUST 17 BEFORE THE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE ARE NECESSARY TO ESTABLISH A SOUND SEABED MINING PROGRAM FOR THE UNITED STATES.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 USUN N 03276 240110Z

I VERY MUCH HOPE THAT YOU WILL AGREE THAT PASSAGE AND ENACTMENT OF S. 2053 BY THE 95TH CONGRESS SERVE THE NATIONAL INTEREST AND THAT AS A MEMBER OF THE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE YOU WILL LEND YOUR SUPPORT TO THIS END.

IF YOU HAVE ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS I WOULD BE PLEASED TO DISCUSS THEM WITH YOU. I MAY BE REACHED IN NEW YORK AT THE FOLLOWING NUMBER: (212)826-5791.

WITH WARM REGARD, SINCERELY, ELLIOT L. RICHARDSON.

YOUNG

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LAW OF THE SEA, SEABED, POLICIES, LEGISLATIVE MAIL
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978USUNN03276
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780345-1034
Format: TEL
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780826/aaaaavhd.tel
Line Count: 108
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 9245105c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION DLOS
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1627594
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LOS - DEEP SEABED MINING LEGISLATION (S.2053)
TAGS: PLOS, US, (RICHARDSON, ELLIOT L), (BAKER, HOWARD H JR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/9245105c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014